



## KRISANNE S. CUNNINGHAM

Director

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Business & Finance

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### KRISANNE S. CUNNINGHAM

Krisanne S. Cunningham is a Director at Fennemore in our Business & Finance Practice Group, where she advises public and private companies, investors, developers, sponsors, entrepreneurs, and boards of directors on complex acquisitions, capital formation, securities offerings, corporate finance, joint ventures, and strategic business transactions.

With more than 25 years of experience, Krisanne serves as lead corporate counsel on sophisticated transactions involving commercial real estate investments, capital raises, mergers and acquisitions, corporate restructurings, and strategic growth initiatives. She regularly structures and negotiates transactions valued in the hundreds of millions of dollars, guiding clients through every phase of the transaction, from entity formation, due diligence, financing, incentive equity, and investor documentation to closing and post-closing integration.

Krisanne has substantial experience advising sponsors, developers, investment groups, and privately held companies on raising capital for business ventures and complex acquisitions. She counsels clients on securities offerings, securities law compliance, investment structures, corporate governance, and financing strategies designed to facilitate successful transactions while meeting applicable federal and state securities requirements. Her work includes developing ownership structures, preparing and negotiating investor and governance documents, and helping clients balance business objectives with legal and regulatory considerations.

Recognized for her extensive knowledge of Nevada business entities, Krisanne is a trusted advisor on the formation and governance of Nevada LLCs, joint ventures, and other investment vehicles. She regularly structures multi-owner entities, negotiates operating and joint venture agreements, and advises boards, investors, and executive leadership on fiduciary duties, governance matters, ownership transitions, and strategic decision making.

Krisanne routinely leads multidisciplinary legal teams that bring together attorneys across corporate, real estate, tax, finance, employment, and regulatory disciplines to efficiently manage complex transactions from inception through closing. Her collaborative approach

enables clients to navigate large, multifaceted transactions with a single strategic legal team. She also advises entrepreneurs and emerging companies on business formation, incentive equity arrangements, financing transactions, growth initiatives, restructurings, and successful exit strategies.

Representative matters include:

Structuring and negotiating mergers, acquisitions, and strategic business transactions valued in the hundreds of millions of dollars

Advising sponsors and investment groups on capital raises and securities compliance for complex business and investment transactions

Forming Nevada LLCs, joint ventures, and other investment entities

Counseling boards of directors and executive leadership on governance, fiduciary obligations, and strategic corporate matters

Coordinating multidisciplinary legal teams to support complex corporate, finance, tax, and commercial real estate transactions

Krisanne currently serves as Chair of the Tax Section of the State Bar of Nevada and is a member of the Executive Committee of the Business Law Section of the State Bar of Nevada, reflecting her active leadership within Nevada's legal community.

Krisanne earned her J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law, where she received the Madeleine and Roger Traynor Award and served as Editor-in-Chief of the Virginia Tax Review. She also earned an LL.M. in Taxation from Georgetown University Law Center, graduating With Distinction and serving as a Graduate Tax Scholar. She began her legal career in Washington,

DC at WilmerHale where she represented Fortune 500 companies and major nonprofit organizations in complex corporate and tax matters.

Krisanne is consistently recognized for her work in corporate and transactional law. She is ranked in Chambers USA (Corporate/Commercial), holds an AV Preeminent Peer Review rating from Martindale-Hubbell, and is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. She has been named one of the Top 50 Women by Mountain States Super Lawyers and has received the "Lawyer of the Year" award in Mergers & Acquisitions in Las Vegas from Best Lawyers of America, with additional recognition in Corporate Law and Business Organizations. She has also been named to Nevada's Top Rank by Nevada Business Magazine since 2013, based on peer voting.

She is licensed to practice law in Nevada, Virginia, the District of Columbia, and Georgia.

## **EDUCATION**

J.D., University of Virginia School of Law

LL.M, Taxation, Georgetown Law Center, with Distinction

B.B.A., University of Notre Dame, *summa cum laude*

## **AREAS OF PRACTICE**

Business & Finance

Mergers & Acquisitions

Emerging Businesses & Technologies

General Counsel Services

Automotive Dealership

## AWARDS AND HONORS

Martindale-Hubbell,® AV Preeminent Peer Rating (5.0 out of 5.0)

Chambers USA,® Corporate/Commercial Law: Nevada, 2021-2026

Mountain States Super Lawyers,® Top 50 Women, 2024-2025

Mountain States Super Lawyers,® Top 100 Attorneys, 2024-2025

Mountain States Super Lawyers,® Mergers and Acquisitions, 2019-2025

Best Lawyers of America® "Lawyer of Year" Award, Mergers & Acquisitions, 2026

Best Lawyers of America,® Corporate Law, Mergers & Acquisitions and Business Organizations, 2020-2026

Nevada Top Rank (formerly Nevada Legal Elite), Nevada Business Magazine, 2013-2024, Top Vote-getter in Southern Nevada, 2016

Avvo 10.0 Rating (out of 10.0)

## ARTICLES AND PRESENTATIONS

Co-Author, *Nevada Corporate M&A 2026 Guide*, Chambers Global, 2026

Co-Author, "Different By Default: Nevada's Business Law Prioritizes Clarity & Efficiency," Nevada Lawyer, August 1, 2026

Author, "Legal MSOs: A New Capital and Management Model," Nevada Lawyer, August 1, 2026

Co-Author, "Maximizing Tax Efficiency: The Power of F Reorganizations in M&A Deals," Nevada Lawyer, December 2025

Co-Author, "Paving the Way for a Successful M&A Deal," Nevada Business Magazine, October 2025

Author, "Mergers & Acquisitions as a Niche Area of Law," Nevada Lawyer, July 2025

Author, "Working Capital Adjustments in M&A Transactions," Nevada Business Magazine, October 2024

Author, "M&A Transactions: Sandbagging Provisions Explained," Nevada Business Magazine, October 2023

Author, "This Is More Complicated Than I Thought: Breaking Down the M&A Process," Nevada Business Magazine, October 2022

Author, "M & A Deals: Tax Considerations of Equity vs. Asset Sales," Nevada Business Magazine, October 2021

Author, "A Summary of Common Tax – Favorable Types of Incentive Equity: Corporations and Partnerships/LLCs," Nevada Lawyer, December 2021

Author, "Letters of Intent: The Foundation/Cornerstone of a Deal," Nevada Business Magazine, October 2019

Author, "Tax Considerations with Multi-Member LLCs," Nevada Lawyer, April 2016

Author, "Tax-Exempt Organizations and Joint Ventures," Nevada Lawyer, April 2016

Co-Speaker, "Nevada LLCs," National Business Institute, Las Vegas, NV

Co-Speaker, "Tax Planning and Section 1031 Exchanges," Nevada Society of CPAs

## **PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

Fellow, American Bar Foundation

Chair of Tax Section, State of Nevada Bar

Executive Committee, Business Law Section, State of Nevada Bar

Member, USO Intermountain Advisory Board

Member, President's Club, Metro Chamber of Commerce

Member, USO Advisory, Executive Women's Council, Metro Chamber of Commerce

Member, Hope Means Nevada Board of Directors

American Bar Association, Business Law Section, M&A Subcommittee

## **ADMISSIONS**

Nevada

Virginia

District of Columbia

Georgia